

CHAPTER 31

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

STATEMENT OF REASONS

Pursuant to Wyo. Stat. § 21-2-304(a)(iii), the Wyoming State Board of Education must prescribe uniform student content and performance standards for the common core of knowledge specified by Wyo. Stat. § 21-9-101(b)(i). The common core of knowledge includes reading/language arts, social studies, mathematics, science, fine and performing arts, physical education, health and safety, humanities, career/vocational education, foreign cultures and languages, applied technology, and government and civics.

After careful consideration, and with support from members of the English Language Arts Standards Review Committee and the Mathematics Standards Review Committee, the Wyoming State Board of Education approved the adoption of the 2011 Revised Wyoming Content and Performance Standards including Health Education, Language Arts and Mathematics. The standards for Language Arts and Mathematics include Common Core State Standards.

The Board is promulgating revised rules for language arts, mathematics, and health. The rules for language arts and mathematics have been modified to incorporate the Common Core State Standards. These standards define the knowledge and skills students should have within their K-12 education so they can graduate from high school able to succeed in college and career. The standards are: aligned with college and workforce expectations; clear, understandable, and consistent; rigorous in content and the application of knowledge through higher-order skill; built on strengths and lessons of

previous state standards; informed by standards in other top performing countries; and evidence-based.

These rules meet the minimum substantive state statutory requirements and are within the Board and Department's statutory authority. No part of this action should be interpreted as any attempt to dictate curriculum at the national or state level.